

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 EURE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00

USIE-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 A-01 OPR-02

AID-05 OMB-01 /077 W

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O R 091315Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2295

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NICOSIA 2707

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PFOR, CY, US, UN

SUBJ: DEMONSTRATION AT AMERICAN EMBASSY, NICOSIA

1. SUMMARY: ON SEPTEMBER 8-9 EMBASSY WAS OBJECT OF PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION BY GREEK CYPRIOT SCHOOL TEACHERS DEMANDING CONTINUATION OF UNITED STATES ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS ON CYPRUS QUESTION. DELEGATION PRESENTED TO AMBASSADOR COPY OF PETITION FORWARDED TO CONGRESS. BULK OF CROWD KEPT AWAY FROM EMBASSY PROPER BUT APPROXIMATELY 200 DEMONSTRATORS MOVED TO FRONT OF CHANCERY, CHANTED SLOGANS AND WAVED PLACARDS . DEMONSTRATION PEACEFUL THROUGHOUT. POLICE PROTECTION AS EFFECTIVE AS IT NEEDED TO BE. HEAVY PRESS COVERAGE. END SUMMARY.

2. ABOUT 1000 GREEK CYPRIOT SCHOOL TEACHERS, SOME BUSSED IN FROM OTHER CITIES, GATHERED IN DOWNTOWN NICOSIA MORNING SEPTEMBER 8 TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DRAFT PETITION FOR PRESENTATION TO CONGRESS. GROUP MARCHED UP

MAKARIOS AVENUE IN DISCIPLINED FORMATION CARRYING FLAGS, PLACARDS AND CHANTING. ON REACHING POLICE BARRICADES ONE BLOCK FROM EMBASSY, MOST DEMONSTRATORS HALTED OR DISPERSED; HOWEVER, GROUP OF APPROXIMATELY 200 BRUSHED ASIDE BARRICADES, POLICE OFFERING LITTLE OR NO ARGUMENT, MARCHED TO CHANCERY BUILDING.

3. DELEGATION OF FIVE PERSONS CALLED ON AMBASSADOR TO PRESENT COPY OF PETITION ALREADY SENT TO CONGRESS. PETITION A) EXPRESSES "GRAVE CONCERN AND BITTERNESS" AT FAILURE FREE WORLD TO ENFORCE UN RESOLUTIONS, B) THANKS US CONGRESSMEN "WHO BY THEIR VOTE HAVE PREVENTED US ADMINISTRATION'S EFFORTS TO RESUME MILITARY AID TO TURKEY", C) "BEGS" US AS CONGRESS TO VOTE AGAINST NEW ATTEMPTS TO RESUME AID, D) CHARGES THAT TURKS "INTENSIFY PROVOCATIONS BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE PERSISTENCE OF US GOVERNMENT TO RESUME MILITARY AID WILL FINALLY PREVAIL, E) AND CALLS ON CONGRESS TO DEMAND ADDITIONAL SANCTIONS.

4. IN REPLY, AMBASSADOR AND EMBOFFS PROMISED TRANSMIT THESE VIEWS TO USG BUT WITHOUT ENDORSEMENT OF THEM (AS ERRONEOUSLY REPORTED NICOSIA PRESS LATER), AND POINTED OUT THAT GREEK CYPRIOTS MIGHT DO WELL TO RECOGNIZE THAT USG AND "FREE WORLD" BY NO MEANS SOLE FACTOR INFLUENCING TURKSY, CITING \$700 MILLION ECONOMIC SUPPORT PACKAGE RECENTLY GRANTED TURKEY BY SOVIET UNION. OUR COMMENTS THIS VEIN STEADFASTLY IGNORED BY DELEGATION'S PROTESTATION THAT "ONLY THE UNITED STATES CAN SOLVE PROBLEM BY PRESSURING TURKEY."

5. DELEGATION THEN RETURNED TO GROUP OUTSIDE CHANCERY, LED CHANTING AND SLOGANEERING AIDED BY BULLHORNS. FULL COVERAGE BY CYPRUS BROADCASTING CORPORATION TV AND LOCAL PRESS. POLICE IN ABUNDANCE BUT CROWD WAS NOT UGLY AND THERE WAS NO NEED FOR FORCIBLE RESTRAINT. AFTER TWO HOURS GROUP WITHDREW TO BEHIND PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED POLICE BARRIERS, BEGAN 24 HOUR COMBINATION SIT-IN AND FAST WHICH JUST NOW ENDING. PERHAPS 50 DEMONSTRATORS REMAINED OVERNIGHT ON MAKARIOS AVENUE CURBSIDE, SHEPHERDED BY CYPRUS POLICE OFFICERS.

6. COMMENT:

A. DEMONSTRATION WAS PEACEFUL IN ALL ASPECTS AND CAREFULLY MONITORED, ALMOST TO POINT OF DIRECTION, BY CYPRUS POLICE AUTHORITIES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TRANSGRESSION OF BARRICADES BY SMALL GROUP COMING TO EMBASSY SEEMED TO OCCUR BY PRE-ARRANGEMENT; IT WAS APPARENT THAT BULK OF DEMONSTRATION NOT SCHEDULED TO APPROACH EMBASSY AREA.

B. TWO OFFICERS FROM ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS' PERSONAL SECURITY GUARD TOOK UP POSITIONS IN CHANCERY AND ESTABLISHED LIAISON WITH RSO, PRESUMABLY TO ENSURE THAT DEMONSTRATION WOULD NOT TAKE UNDESIRE

COURSE.

C. IN REMARKABLE DISPLAY OF EMPATHY, FON MIN TELEPHONED AMBASSADOR EVENING OF SEPTEMBER 8 TO EXPRESS ARCHBISHOP'S PERSONAL CONCERN THAT SOME DEMONSTRATORS WERE LINGERING IN NEIGHBORHOOD AND OFFERING HOPE THAT THIS NOT DISTURBING EMBASSY.

D. POLITICAL NOTE: THIS IS FIRST OF WHAT WILL LIKELY BE SERIES OF MANIFESTATIONS STIMULATED BY GOC AND POLITICAL GROUPS RESPONSIVE TO IT. IT SHOWED TO WHAT EXTENT THESE SPECTACLES CAN BE FINE-TUNED ACCORDING TO EFFECT GOVERNMENT WISHES TO PRODUCE. DELEGATION VISITING AMBASSADOR PLACED GREAT EMPHASIS ON CONTINUATION OF CONGRESSIONAL EMBARGO, STATING OUTRIGHT THE GREEK CYPRIOTS BELIEVE THIS IS SOLE WEAPON THEY HAVE IN DEALING WITH INTRANSIGENT TURKS, THAT CYPRUS' FATE LIES IN HANDS OF UNITED STATES. USUAL DISTINCTION MADE BETWEEN "US CONGRESS/US PEOPLE" AND "AMERICAN ADMINISTRATION." WE CONTEMPLATE, OF COURSE, RATHER DIFFERENT SORTS OF DEMONSTRATION IF EMBARGO IS LIFTED. END COMMENT.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, TEACHERS, ARMS EMBARGO, RESOLUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 SEP 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NICOSI02707
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750311-0693
From: NICOSIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750970/aaaackec.tel
Line Count: 133
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <22 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <23 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEMONSTRATION AT AMERICAN EMBASSY, NICOSIA
TAGS: ASEC, PFOR, PINS, US, CY, TU, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006